

Preliminary Amendment
January 22, 2002

REMARKS

The above amendments to the specification, claims, and abstract restrict the claims to the embodiments using a service system (for example, the embodiment of Figure 7). All the original claims have been replaced apart from original Claim 17, which has been amended. The arrangement of Figure 6 is no longer claimed and minor changes to the description have been made to avoid referring to the arrangement of Figure 6 as an embodiment of the invention. The Summary of Invention has also been amended to reflect the changes to the claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure: Appendix A (19 pages)
Appendix B (1 page)
Appendix C (1 page)

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Appendix A

(VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE)

Please amend the specification on pages 1-16 as indicated below.

Appendix C

(VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE)

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Please amend the Abstract as indicated below.

(Amended)

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**[Location-Based Data Access Control]**

In order to restrict access to content data held on a removable data carrier [(83)] or included in an electronic file, equipment [(70)] for accessing this content is arranged only to be enabled upon a location condition being satisfied. This condition is tested for by obtaining current-location data [(67)] representing the current location of the equipment, and comparing the current-location data with [authorised]authorized-location data representing a predetermined [authorised]authorized location or locality for operation of the equipment. [The authorized location data may be stored in the equipment itself, in a remote system(42), or in the removable data media or received data file.] This comparison is done in a remote service system after the identity of the content data has been sent to the system.

[(Fig. 7)]

Appendix B

(VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE)

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Please amend the Claim 17 as indicated below.

17. (Amended) A service system for determining when an item of equipment is located at a location where particular functionality of the equipment is [authorised]authorized for use in accessing target data provided on a removable data carrier or in a received data file, the service system comprising:

- a communications sub-system for communicating with said equipment both to receive therefrom identity information concerning said target data, and to return to the equipment enablement signals for enabling said particular functionality for accessing the target data;
- a location-obtaining [discovery] arrangement for obtaining current-location data representing the current location of the equipment;
- a store for storing in association with identity data, authorized-location data representing a predetermined authorized location or locality for operation of said particular functionality of the equipment;
- a data retrieval arrangement for using identity information received from the equipment via the communication sub-system to access the authorized-location data held in said store in respect of identity data matches the identity information; and
- a comparison arrangement for comparing the current-location data with the accessed authorized-location data whereby to generate a location-match signal upon this comparison indicating that the equipment is currently located in said [authorised]authorized location or locality.